

To Enroll, Please Call:
1-800-939-4170
Or Visit:
<a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a>

Enrollment Code: << XXXXXXXXX>>

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>>

August 25, 2022

# <<Variable Heading>>

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

Valex Corp, ("Valex") is writing to inform you of a recent event that may impact the security of some of your information. We take this issue seriously and are providing you with information about the event and steps you may take to help protect your personal information, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On or about July 1, 2021, Valex identified that its network had been impacted by a malware attack that encrypted certain systems. We immediately launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the event. We quickly worked to: (1) secure our systems; (2) restore access to the information so we could continue to operate without disruption; and (3) investigate what happened and whether the event resulted in any unauthorized access to, or theft of, information by the unknown actor. Through our investigation, we determined that the unknown actor gained access to certain systems between June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 and removed some data. Despite our thorough investigation, we could not definitively determine the precise data that was removed.

Although the investigation was unable to determine whether personal information stored on those systems had actually been viewed or removed by the unknown actor, we could not rule out the possibility of such activity. Therefore, in an abundance of caution, we undertook an internal review to determine what information may have been stored in the potentially impacted files. We then worked to confirm the address information for individuals and entities potentially impacted. This review concluded on February 7, 2022.

What Information Was Involved? The following types of information were contained within the impacted systems: your name and date of birth. Your Social Security number may also have been included. To date, we are unaware of any actual misuse of this information as a result of this incident and are providing this notice out of an abundance of caution.

What We Are Doing. The confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in our care are among our highest priorities, and we take this incident very seriously. We immediately launched an investigation and secured our environment. We also reviewed our security policies and procedures to reduce the risk of similar future events. Although we do not have any indication of identity theft or fraud as a result of this event, we are offering complimentary credit monitoring and identity restoration services through IDX for 24 months as an added precaution. We also reported this event to appropriate state regulators.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. You may also review the information contained in the attached "Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Personal Information." There you will also find more information on the credit monitoring and identity protection services we are making available to you. While Valex will cover the cost of these services, you will need to complete the activation process. Enrollment instructions are attached to this letter

**For More Information.** If you have additional questions, please call our dedicated assistance line at 1-800-939-4170, Monday through Friday from 6 am - 6 pm Pacific Time (except U.S. holidays). You may also write to Valex at 6080 Leland St., Ventura, CA 93003.

We apologize for any inconvenience or concern this event may cause.

Sincerely,

Steve Simon President and COO Valex Corp.



#### STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

## **Enroll in Credit Monitoring**

- 1. **Website and Enrollment.** Go to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. Please note deadline to enroll is November 25, 2022.
- **2. Activate the credit monitoring** provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.
- **3. Telephone.** Contact IDX at 1-800-939-4170 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.
- **4. Review your credit reports**. We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this incident, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

You should also know that you have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some kind of proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

### **Monitor Your Accounts**

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order your free credit report, visit <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a "credit freeze" on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer's express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
- 2. Social Security number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
- 5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.); and

7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-		https://www.transunion.com/credit-
report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	help
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-833-395-6938
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	9554, Allen, TX 75013	2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	9554, Allen, TX 75013	160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

# **Additional Information**

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; <a href="www.identitytheft.gov">www.identitytheft.gov</a>; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For District of Columbia residents, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th St. NW #1100 Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400; and <a href="mailto:oag@dc.gov">oag@dc.gov</a>.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662 or 1-888-743-0023; and www.oag.state.md.us.

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and <a href="www.ncdoj.gov">www.ncdoj.gov</a>.

*For Rhode Island residents*, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; <a href="https://www.riag.ri.gov">www.riag.ri.gov</a>; and 1-401-274-4400. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident.

For New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violator. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting <a href="https://www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-underfora.pdf">www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-underfora.pdf</a>, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

*For New York residents*, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or https://ag.nv.gov/.